

SIO's Policy Regarding Dawah :

The organisation shall promote Da'wah-character among students and cadre; and shall present the holistic perspective of Islam before student fraternity in a manner to substantiate that Islam is the only natural way of life (Deene Fitrah).

Quran states that the calling towards Islam (Da'wah) is a bounden duty of Muslim Ummah. From the lives of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and his companions it is evident that the central theme of their struggle was Da'wah. Where this is collective responsibility of the ummah, it is also responsibility of every individual that he should present the true concept of Islam and make their lives a walking model of Islam. But unfortunately, with time the individuals and community as a whole has gradually jettisoned this Da'wah-character from their lives. SIO feels that reinstating of this character is imperative in the present situation of nation and community. Hence it has been decided that organisation will try to inculcate the spirit of Da'wah among students and cadre that their lives represent Islam, and all their organisational and non-organisational activities reflect the spirit of Da'wah and they should present the true picture of Islam by their words and deeds. The main objective is to present the message of Islam before student community and convey the message clearly that the addressee gets the sense that Islam is the only way for success in life here and hereafter.

The organisation will pay attention to academic and research work to present Islamic Dawah in the context of India's particular socio-religious environment.

In the field of Da'wah the special religious and social atmosphere cannot be ignored in any way. At this moment we see that the neo-spiritual Movements are attracting the modern and educated individuals on a large scale. While formulating an action-plan of Da'wah they must also be kept in mind. In the same way the particular social systems prevailing in the different states and places (for e.g. society based on caste and sections) should also be discussed seriously in the

framework of Da'wah. In the same way different experiments have been carried out in Da'wah field, different methods have been applied; knowledge of these and their utilisation is also vital necessary. It is understood that in the special ambience of India these kind of research and learning activities is to be carried out which would be beneficial for our people in their Da'wah efforts.

Personal Qualities of a Daee :

1. Prayers of Tahajjud: The prayers of Tahajjud are immensely important for a daee as it brings him closer to Allah.
2. Recitation of Quran: Recitation of Quran with its meaning and pondering on the same makes ones heart focused on Dawah and it also becomes a medium to get close to Allah.
3. Remembrance (Dikr) of Allah: Remembrance of Allah keeps away two dangers 1. Shaitan and 2. Nifaaq. Shaitaanwisper fear in your heart for doing Dawah so it is important for you to keep him away by the Dikr of Allah.
4. Best of Manners: The Way you present yourself is also Dawah. A daee should always carry good manners so that people get attracted to his behavior.
5. Fear of Allah: The Unseen Fear of Allah makes a Daee more focused on Dawah rather than the worldly distractions which may affect his dawah effectiveness.
6. Ikhlaas: Any deed should be done for pleasing Allah only and not for pleasing the world or even yourself.

7. Vernacular Language: This is very important factor for a Daee. If he wants to convey any message to the people living in his locality he must know their language. Today this is the biggest barrier for Dawah to penetrate in local villages.
8. Quran and Literature: To speak to somebody you will have to have some copies of Quran translation and Literature on important topics of Islam.
9. Ullama guidance: Ullama are the people of Knowledge and knowledge is the most important tool in Dawah. You should have a guidance from good scholars which may help you in preparing any material for non muslims.
10. Stick to the Jamaat: And lastly you need to understand that being alone you will be weaker and if you be regular and stick to any Jamaat or NGO's for doing Dawah Activities

Team Work for Dawah :

Dawah work can be done effectively only in the form of a team. A team is strong and receives God's help only when every individual member of the team is modest and has well-wishing for others. Being modest means to not be arrogant, taking things positively rather than getting offended. Dawah begins from discovering God's greatness and sharing it with others. One who has made this discovery becomes modest to the last extent. Such a person will have unilateral well-wishing for his madu, even after facing unpleasant experiences. A dayee conveys God's message to others so that they can

know the way to Paradise. The spirit of dawah in itself develops these two qualities in a dayee. The result of this is that angels would come down to help the dayee. These two qualities can be called positive qualities. A dayee should be positive in the complete sense of the word: this will guarantee his success. Negativity and dawah cannot coexist. The only way of developing these traits is to do self-introspection.

Dawah in Campus :

1. Be willing to let others know that you are a Muslim

The first day of class usually involves introductions where you can at least let people know you are Muslim. By simply letting people casually know your religion, will allow Islam to become less foreign to them. When introducing yourself, if you toss in that you are a Muslim, you immediately solve a problem for those who have never met a practicing Muslim or heard of Islam.

It is definitely not a situation where you want to preach to people, but it does allow you to indirectly urge people to keep you in mind if they ever have any questions. If you are a sister wearing Hijab, it will also immediately answer questions, and further down the road encourage those that are interested to approach you.

2. Do not be ashamed of practicing your religion

If it is prayer time, do not think to yourself that you will simply wait till you get home and pray late. Be willing to find a quiet clean spot, perhaps in the union building and make Salat.

Do not make a show of it, but if others happen to see you and ask questions, you will have accomplished a positive first step by achieving dialogue. If someone is willing to ask questions, chances are they are willing to listen to an answer. By providing insight and being an example, you will have given someone something to think about at the very least.

3. Do not be afraid to quote the Quran in your writing

In nearly every paper you have to write, you are required to include outside sources. Whether it be a business class, a philosophy class or a science class, chances are, the Quran makes some statement or reference that could provide a useful quote.

People of other faiths are constantly quoting their religious text and with Islam being a complete way of life, this allows it to be a useful tool and should be presented as such. Dropping quotes from the Quran will most probably spark some interesting discussions and provide an intellectual environment to share basic Islamic knowledge with teachers and classmates.

4. Take responsibility in following up with those that seem interested

There are few things as tragic as when someone is interested in Islam and there is no one willing to take the time to help them and answer their questions.

If someone approaches you and begins asking questions, get contact information, something as easy as an e-mail address can keep you in touch with them. Invite them to any social gatherings on campus or at the Mosque which could help provide more insight into Islam and introduce them to more Muslims.

5. Get involved

Getting involved in campus activities allows you to meet new people and gives you the opportunity to share your beliefs with them as you get to know them and work with them.

Bringing awareness to Islam through your actions will not only open doors for you to share Islam with others, but will also keep you from straying or from getting involved in something unIslamic.

It is also important to get involved in Islamic organizations. If your school has an MSA (Muslim Students' Association) or something similar to an organized Islamic group on campus, be willing to dedicate some time to it.

If they have a table where they distribute literature, sit at the table and answer questions. If even one person remembers you and asks you questions later, or listens to your explanation of Islam, that will be one more person you will have helped.

If your group has regular meetings, make posters or stick signs on bulletin boards inviting others to attend. It may catch someone's attention who has been looking for a place to learn more about Islam and has had no idea where to begin looking.

6. Always consider yourself an example of Islam

Whether people know you are Muslim or not, if you are always working to please Allah, sooner or later those around you will question why you do what you do and what dictates your moral behavior and modesty.

People believe what they see, and if they see you being a good example of a Muslim, they will take what you are saying and the religion itself more seriously.

7. Keep it simple

Once you get the dialog going, remember to keep it simple. You don't want to scare people away with things that they are not going to understand the first time you approach them. If things seem difficult, people generally do not pursue them. You may want to think in advance what you would tell someone if they asked, it sounds silly, but you may only get one opportunity to share the beauty of Islam with them.

8. Do not pretend to know everything by being disrespectful

While you are trying to present Islam, other religions are out doing the same and confrontations can get ugly.

If you are approached by someone of a different faith, working to inform you, you may want to listen with the condition that they in turn listen to you. By understanding each other and respecting one another both parties can grow.

If done in a manner to increase understanding, rather than see who can yell the loudest, the truth of Islam may enter their hearts and change them. By seeing everyone with the potential to be a Muslim, you will be less condoning and disrespectful in your encounters, and hopefully more successful.

How to Train Cadre for Dawah :

1. Making cadre aware of the importance of giving dawah.
2. Identifying and understanding what approach must be adopted for handling different situations.
3. Creating awareness and importance of their own conduct and controlling oneself.
4. Making the cadre aware of the importance of research, patience and using ones initiative.
5. To provide clear guidelines on how to deal with non-Muslims from different backgrounds.
6. Explaining Principles of Da'wah to Cadre such as,

Adhering to the Quran and Sunnah.

Knowledge and Insight.

Understanding.

Wisdom.

Good Relations.

Patience and bearing hardships.

Adorning oneself with Excellent Manners.

Use of Kindness and Gentleness.

Not losing hopes.

7. Each member of cadre should compulsorily study & refer “*Dawah Guide (Towards performing Dawah)* by Abdussalam”.

Download: <http://www.islamicstudies.info/literature/Dawah-Guide.pdf>